



IN REPLY REFER TO: MT-450

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Great Plains Region

Montana Area Office

P.O. Box 30137

Billings, Montana 59107-0137



September 9, 2011

FAXOGRAM: Water Order Change

To: Chief, Power Supply and Billing Division, WAPA, Watertown, South Dakota
Attention: F-6001
Chief, Power Dispatching Branch, WAPA, Loveland, Colorado
Attention: J-4120
Facilities Manager, Hardin, Montana
Attention: MT-300: Tom Tauscher
Project Manager, Mills, Wyoming
Attention: WY-4000, WY-4100, WY-6400
Assistant Superintendent, National Park Service, Lovell, Wyoming
Attention: Valerie Newman

From: Reservoir and River Operations, Billings, Montana

Subject: **Yellowtail Water Release Order - BHR No. 11-90**

CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS (September 9, 2011; 12:00 p.m.)

Elevation: 3642.01 Storage: 1,046,616 acre-feet; River Release: 4,200 cfs; Inflow: 3,400 cfs;

GENERAL COMMENTS:

Recent streamflow measurements conducted by the U.S. Geological Survey indicates actual river are lower than anticipated, due to the rapid and heavy algae growth. To adjust for the variation in flows and continue evacuating flood storage in Bighorn Lake as planned, the following operation changes are required at Yellowtail Dam, Powerplant, and Afterbay applying a new shift of -0.81 to the river gage height.

YELLOWTAIL TURBINE RELEASE:

At 1130 hour on Friday, September 9, 2011:

Maintain average daily turbine release at 4,280 cfs (\approx 3,210 MW-Hrs/day using 32.0 cfs/mw).

AFTERBAY RELEASE AND OPERATION:

At 1130 hour on Friday, September 9, 2011:

*Maintain diversions to the Bighorn Canal at 350 cfs (gage height = 74.27 with -0.82 shift).
Decrease river release to 4,000 cfs (increase gage height to 61.87 & apply new shift of -0.81).
Decrease total release from the Afterbay to 4,350 cfs.*

SPECIAL AFTERBAY OPERATION REQUIREMENT:

Maintain the level of the Afterbay at or above elevation 3184.5 until further notice. It is also important to maintain the river stage within +/- 0.06 feet of the river stage set point value.

/S/ Tim H. Felchle